

University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA)
November 22, 2021
526 Princes Fork Road/Zoom
Minutes

Attending in person: Theresa Johansson (presiding), Rachel Fitzgerald, Farida Jalalzai, Ian Leuschner, Jami McGrath, Kim Rhodes

Attending virtually: Monika Gibson, Don Hempson, Rich Mathieson, Kim McKinnie, Mallory Miller, Jennifer Nardine, James Pennix (for Juan Espinoza), Michel Pleimling, Nicole Sanderlin, John Talerico, Judy Taylor, Tom Thompson

Theresa Johansson welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

1. **Announcement of Approval of Minutes, October 25, 2021:** Theresa announced that the minutes from October 25, 2021 had been distributed electronically, calling for edits and approval. Minutes were approved electronically.
2. **Updates:**
 - a. **Report on University Data Commons Global Engagement App:** Nicole Sanderlin indicated there was not an update, but as people visit the dashboard, please reach out to Nicole with any questions or concerns. Theresa asked if there would be a way to search for what faculty member might be working on a project in a specified country. The response was that in the Research portion of the app, one can search for location, people and partners; but that there isn't a way to pull all the information into one place. The data is not tied to a specific person, and the parameters do not support such a search. Don provided some background and clarified that he hopes improvements to the MOU and agreement database may structure data collection in such a way as to make it easier to pull. Nicole added that another data set that they hope to pull in with the app (but so far cannot, because of FERPA concerns) is where students are going on study abroad.
 - b. **Alumni Awards for Excellence-International Education, Outreach and Education:** Farida Jalalzai reported that the announcement for the Alumni Awards for Excellence in International Education, Outreach and Education went out November 1st. She asked if folks could spread the word in their individual units. The deadline is **4:00 p.m. January 31, 2022**; details regarding the criteria of each award and previous award winners is at the following website: <https://www.outreach.vt.edu/about/awards-recognition.html>. Farida pointed out that the application this year allows the selection committee to move an applicant to a different category from the one they have been nominated for, if the group feels it is a better fit.
 - c. **Working Group updates and chair selections:**
 - i. MOU process/database working group-The working group includes: Don Hempson (Chair), Farida Jalalzai, Ian Leuschner, Michel Pleimling and John Talerico. There are no updates; the group has not yet met. There are several different objectives including how material will be collected and the architecture of the database and how MOUs are generated. Since the last signatory is with the Provost Office, the question of what they would like to see will be explored.

- ii. Global Advancement and Alumni Engagement-The working group includes: Don Back, David Clubb, Ian Leuschner, Mallory Miller and Ginny Ritenour. The group has not yet met; nothing to report at this time.
 - iii. Internationalization at Home-Rachel Fitzgerald (Chair), Monica Gibson, Lara Khansa, James McGrath and Janell Watson. The group is planning to meet next month to discuss and define Internationalization at home; a needs assessment will be done; and bringing in a diversity and inclusion component.
3. **Updates to UCIA membership (see attached documents):**
- a. Bylaw edits-The language was updated to include representation from the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning Office of Sponsored Programs. The Bylaws were also updated to reflect the Center of International Research, Education and Development (changed from Office of International Research, Education, and Development). The suggestion was to add Executive Director to the language for the CIRED change, as there is no longer a director of the Center. Additionally, Michel Pleimling suggested that the membership language should include the following changes: Undergraduate Student **Senate** Representative; Graduate Student **Senate** Representative; as well as adding “A/P Faculty Senate Representative” to the membership listing. A recommendation was made to confirm with COIA that there is a need for representation from the A/P faculty senate on this committee.
 - b. Second Reading-Michel also suggested that we have today’s discussion be the official first reading of this resolution since the changes were presented in writing for all attending to review and discuss. The suggestion was made to have an “electronic second reading” since there will not be a December meeting; and final voting can occur at the January meeting.
 - c. Voting-There was no vote on the resolution, but the motion was made to have the resolution reading at today’s meeting be the first reading/discussion with an electronic second reading and voting at January’s meeting; was seconded; all were in favor; there was no opposition or abstention; the motion carried.
4. **Member Announcements/Comments:** Don Hempson announced that we successfully concluded a semester with no COVID cases; no travel restrictions; and Study Abroad was back in full swing at the Steger Center. Rachel Fitzgerald uplifted the Passport Project where Institute of International Education American Passport issued a grant (https://vtx.vt.edu/articles/2021/11/outreach-globaleducation-passport_project.html); and the Global Education Office (GEO) will match the grant. The grant will fully fund passport applications for 25 students; with the match, it will bring the total to 50 students.
5. **Adjournment:** There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m. A reminder there is no December meeting; the next meeting will be held on Monday, January 24, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Kimberly Rhodes
Recording Secretary